



Two days after boarding, I looked at my first meal, a handful of uncooked instant rice, and thought, *Is this all there is?* We weren't even given water to drink. By the third day we saw an improvement—cooked rice with fish sauce, and later tuna—heavenly! My mother and I shared something new—a Coke. Being unfamiliar with American products I associated the smell of Lysol in the ship with the taste of Coke. Until I learned better,